

January 9, 1984

LB 403

committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Do we have an amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Rupp would like to amend his own bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I apologize for the fact that this amendment isn't in the Journal. We tried to get in last week and I was to contact Colonel Kohmetscher Friday. As most of you know the tragic loss of a trooper down in Falls City made that impossible so we didn't get it in the Journal in time. In essence the amendment says this. "There is hereby created in the state treasury a cash fund to be known as the Nebraska State Patrol Criminal Investigation Cash Fund which shall be used for the enforcement of any state law relating to felonies." In essence all it does is this. In 1977 the State Patrol was given a federal grant to use for a readily available cash fund to buy contraband, stolen materials and so forth. In 1981 as I understand it, the federal government no longer made this money available and the state picked up that appropriation of \$10,000, however, it is lumped right in with the general fund and perhaps Senator Warner will be able to clarify this if you do have some questions, but the \$10,000 is lumped right in with the general fund and has been for the last three years. Patrol requests and I guess a budget and appropriations people request that as a matter of clarifying the whole situation it would be easier to have this in a separate account, a \$10,000 separate account. Right now \$100,000 is kept in a separate account for buying drugs and things like that. They would like to do the same thing with this \$10,000 and I guess I would emphasize there is no fiscal impact with this. It is just merely a bookkeeping matter where they would keep the \$10,000 separate from the general fund. This fund is used for things like buying guns and so forth as I said, and I would emphasize the \$10,000 is really never spent. It is a roll over fund. They use it to buy evidence. Then if they made